

REMARKS

Claims 1-7, 16-23, 25-28, and 35 are pending in this application. Claims 15 and 32 were deleted in a previous amendment, and claims 8-14, 24, 29-31, 33, and 34 are currently deleted herein. Claims 1 and 20 are currently amended herein.

On February 10, 2005, Applicant's representative spoke with the Examiner to discuss the status of the application. As a result of that conversation, Applicant has amended claims 1 and 20 as helpfully suggested by the Examiner.

On April 8, 2005, Applicant filed an Amendment and Response Under 37 CFR 1.111 to the Final Office Action Mailed January 12, 2005 ("the Amendment"). On April 15, 2005, the Patent Office issued a Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment ("the Notice"), indicating that each claim in the Amendment had not been provided with the proper status identifier. The Notice did not point out with particularity the claims that had been improperly identified.

After carefully reviewing the Amendment, Applicant has determined that the Amendment identified claims 8-15, 24, and 29-34 as "deleted." Herein, Applicant has revised the status identifier for each of these claims from "deleted" to "canceled," which is one of the status identifiers expressly provided for by the Patent Office's Revised Amendment Practice.

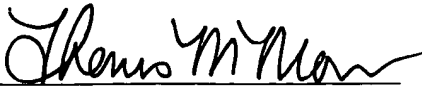
SUMMARY

In light of the above remarks and the revision to the status identifiers for claims 8-15, 24, and 29-34, Applicant respectfully submits that the Amendment is now compliant and is now in condition for examination by the Examiner. Should the Examiner have any questions, comments or suggestions in furtherance of the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the attorney of record by telephone, facsimile, or electronic mail.

Applicant believes that no other fees are due in association with this filing of this Response. However, should the Commissioner deem that any fees are due, including any fees for extensions of time, Applicant respectfully requests that the Commissioner accept this a Petition Therefor, and direct that any additional fees be charged to Baker Botts L.L.P. Deposit Account No. 02-0383, (*formerly Baker & Botts, L.L.P.*,) Order Number 063718.0280.

Respectfully submitted,

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